

REMARKS

In view of the preceding amendments and the comments, which follow, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.111, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Office Action of December 29, 2005.

Summary

Claims 9 and 11 stand rejected.

Claims 9 and 11 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced as a result of these amendments.

Claims 12 and 13 have been added.

Claims 9, 11, 12, and 13 are pending following entry of the amendments and consideration of the following remarks.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oross (U.S. Pat. No. 6,757,002) in view of Schumer (U.S. Pat. No. 5,768,492). Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oross in view of Castanenda (U.S. Pat. No. 4,786,895) and further in view of Schumer.

Claim 9 recites, *inter alia*, an input control system comprising an input pad having a coordinate input portion for inputting data and four push type switches. The input data from the input pad and data from each of the switches is formatted to common format data by the input controller and outputted to the input driver. The input driver can set or change the operation implemented in response to the common format data.

Applicants agree with the Examiner that Oross does not disclose that data from the input pad and data from switches are formatted to a common format data, wherein the common format data includes X coordinate and Y coordinate positional information and ON or OFF information of each switch and the common format data is output as a single data item.

Schumer fails to teach or suggest all of Claim 9 limitations. Schumer fails to teach or suggest an input controller used to format the input data to a common format data. Schumer, in a single sentence, states "upon receipt of the digitizer

report it is translated into a common, internal format." Schumer also fails to describe an input driver used to change the operation implemented in response to the common format data. Thus Claim 9 is allowable over the cited art.

For reasons similar to those stated above, Claim 11 is allowable over the cited art.

Accordingly, Claim 9 and Claim 11, as well as dependent Claims 12 and 13, are allowable over the cited art.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration of this application. If the examiner finds that there are any outstanding issues which may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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